

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: Hiroaki ITO *et al.*

Title: A PREVENTIVE OR THERAPEUTIC AGENT FOR INFLAMMATORY BOWEL DISEASE COMPRISING IL-6 ANTAGONIST AS AN ACTIVE INGREDIENT

Appl. No.: 10/677,227

Filing Date: 10/3/2003

Examiner: Prema Maria MERTZ

Art Unit: 1646

Confirmation 8597

Number:

AMENDMENT AND REPLY UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.111

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

This communication is responsive to the Non-Final Office Action dated March 12, 2009, concerning the above-referenced patent application.

Applicants enclose with this amendment a Petition for Extension of Time to make this response timely.

Amendments to the claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this document.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 8 of this document.

Please amend the application as follows: